

**Question for written answer E-002845/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Implementation of Directive (EU) 2019/1158 in Denmark 1/2

In Denmark the government and the social partners are currently in the process of implementing Directive (EU) 2019/1158.

Some people have argued that the two parents should have equal rights from the moment the child is born. This would mean that the parents should be given the same number of weeks of paid leave, for instance 24 weeks, with 13 weeks that are transferable and 11 weeks that are not. The mother would get her 14+9 paid weeks of leave after the birth of the child and the father 2+9 paid weeks. This model is similar to the situation in Sweden, Norway, Iceland and Spain and what is underway in Finland.

Some have argued that such a model is not legal; the two parents must be given exactly the same number of weeks of parental leave. That means that when the father is given the 9 obligatory weeks of parental leave, the mother will end up with 27 weeks of leave (4+14+9).

Is the equal rights model that gives each parent the same paid leave after the birth of the child (as is the case in a number of countries) legal under EU law?